# PLAN FOR MONITORING SURFACE WATER QUALITY CONDITIONS IN WATERS IMPACTED BY HURRICANE KATRINA

## PHASE 1 – LAKE PONTCHARTRAIN AND SURROUNDING AREAS

# Prepared by

Water Quality Assessment Division And Laboratory Services Division Office of Environmental Assessment Post Office Box 4314 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-4314

Revision 0

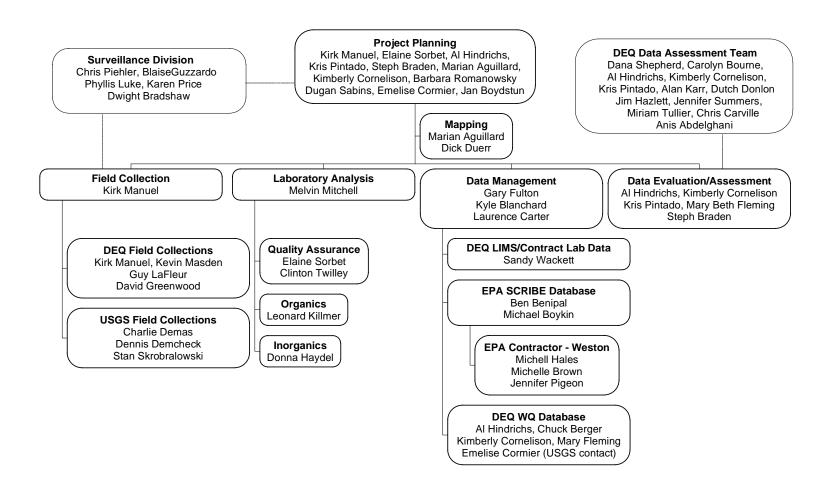
September 15, 2005

# PLAN FOR MONITORING SURFACE WATER QUALITY CONDITIONS IN WATERS IMPACTED BY HURRICANE KATRINA

PHASE 1 – LAKE PONTCHARTRAIN AND SURROUNDING AREAS

Wilbert Jordan, Assistant Secretary	9/19/057 Date
LDEQ, Office of Environmental Assessment	
Barbara Romanowsky, Administrator LDEQ, Water Quality Assessment Division	9-18-05 Date
Melvin "Mitch" Mitchell, Administrator	Ø9-18-ØS Date
Kirk Manuel, Environmental Scientist Manager	9-18.05 Date
LDEQ, Water Quality Assessment Division Water Quality Surveys Section	
Elaine Sorbet, Environmental Scientist Senior LDEQ, Laboratory Services Division	9/19/05 Date

# PROJECT ORGANIZATION Surface Water Quality Monitoring Plan Hurricane Katrina - Impacts to Lake Pontchartrain and Surrounding Areas



#### PROBLEM DEFINITION

On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina struck Louisiana causing widespread damage within the LDEQ's Designated Water Quality Management Basins – Lake Pontchartrain, Pearl River, Terrrebonne, and Barataria Basins. The specific effects of Hurricane Katrina were unforeseen and uncontrollable; and emergency conditions (threats to human health and the environment) persist. In addition to emergency conditions, short-and long-term effects to surface water quality are anticipated in all impacted watersheds.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Land uses in the impacted watersheds/area (Lake Pontchartrain, Pearl River, Terrebonne, and Barataria Basins) range from coastal marshes and cypress tupelo forests to highly urbanized and agricultural areas, with both natural and anthropogenic sources of pollutants. In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, preliminary sampling results show high concentrations of fecal coliform bacteria which can be attributed to both point and nonpoint sources. Failing waste water treatment plants, debris, and animal waste or carcasses have contributed to the concentration of bacteria in the receding floodwaters. High organic loads are expected from marshes and forests transporting sediments, nutrients and organic material into the receiving waters. Pesticides from row crop agriculture and highly urbanized areas, as well as oil and grease from submerged parking lots, roads, highways, and driveways will be unusually high. Sediment from construction sites, nutrients from fertilized lawns, and heavy metals (zinc, cadmium, chromium, copper, and lead) are also expected to be sources of pollutants within urbanized areas.

To determine the environmental impacts, LDEQ has worked with its state and federal partners to establish a unified Incident Management Team (IMT) for the coordination of environmental-related emergency response, assessment and recovery efforts. Joining DEQ in the IMT are the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) "Strike Team"; EPA emergency response units; representatives from the Louisiana Oil Spill Coordinators Office (LOSCO), the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the United States Geological Survey (USGS).

The LDEQ Water Quality Assessment Division (WQAD) and the USGS will monitor surface waters in the impacted areas to address the following objectives:

- Collect appropriate samples to determine the impact of Hurricane Katrina on water quality in affected areas (i.e. before/after surface water quality conditions).
- 2. Collect appropriate samples to determine impact of pumping flood waters from New Orleans into Lake Pontchartrain, and

3. Determine if water quality standards are being exceeded (i.e. threat to human health and the environment)

#### PROJECT TASK/DESCRIPTION

LDEQ has fixed watershed-based and waterbody-specific stations that are sampled on a routine basis. Both types of stations in the impacted areas will be targeted for the monitoring performed for this project. In order to assess short- and long-term impacts to surface water quality, LDEQ will conduct the sampling using a phased approach. A phased approach is necessary due to a lack of access in many areas, and to maximize shared resources.

Phase I sampling will concentrate on Lake Pontchartrain to gage the effects of receding floodwaters as well as the effects of pumped water diverted from the Greater New Orleans area into the lake. As accessibility and resources permit, monitoring will expand to more areas north of Lake Pontchartrain and to areas south/southeast/east of New Orleans (e.g. St. Bernard and Plaquemines Parishes, Chalmette, etc.). After assessing sampling results and accessibility, sites may be added or deleted, and sampling frequencies may change.

#### SAMPLING DESIGN/SCHEDULE

A list of all current and historical ambient sites has been developed for the impacted areas; existing sites selected for the Phase 1 sampling effort are identified in Appendix A. This list also includes five new sites located along the south shore of Lake Pontchartrain to monitor the New Orleans pump-out areas. Also included in the list are two sites that USGS will monitor and provide the data to DEQ; site 0109 – Chef Menteur Pass and site 0035 – Pass Rigolets.

The following sampling scheme will be followed at all sites until further notice (i.e. it is determined that sampling is no longer necessary or can be reduced).

- Sampling will be done twice/week with the exception of dissolved metals (mercury and non-mercury); dissolved metals will be collected once/week.
- Field data (i.e. in situ dissolved oxygen, temperature, pH, conductivity and salinity) will be collected at all sites.
- Water sample collections for laboratory analysis will be made at all sites; Table 1 outlines the water sample collection requirements including agency responsibilities.

	TABLE 1. WATER SAMPLE COLLECTIONS AT EACH SITE												
Bottle	Parameter Category	Collected By	Container	Preservation	Minimum Sample Volume or Weight	Maximum Holding Time	Analytical Methods	Laboratory					
A	Conventionals	DEQ	Cylindrical plastic	4°C	1 liter	Turb. & Color 48 hours TSS/TDS 7 days Alkalinity 14 days CI, SO4, Cond. 28 days	Turb. EPA 180.1 TDS EPA 160.1 TSS EPA 160.2 Alkalinity EPA 310.1 CI/SO4 EPA 300 Cond. EPA 120.1 Color EPA 110.2	DEQ					
В	Sodium  (Plus Total Metals at Sites 1049 and 1050 ONLY)	DEQ	Polyethylene, cylindrical HNO3 pH < 2		8 ounces (1 Liter for Sites 1050 and 0306)	6 months	Sodium and Total Metals EPA 200.7	DEQ					
Hg	Dissolved Mercury	DEQ	Freshwater Glass  Brackish Water (>0.5ppt salinity) Glass	2% BrCl, 4°C 2% BrCl, 4°C	500 mL 500 mL	28 days	Frontier Geoscience's SOP (Cold Vapor –AFS)	Frontier Geosciences (shipped by DEQ Lab)					
Non-Hg Metals	Dissolved Metals Cr, Cu, Cd, Pb, Ni, As, Zn	DEQ	Freshwater HDPE Brackish Water 2 HDPE	1% HNO <sub>3</sub> to pH<2, 4°C 0.099% HNO3, 4°C	250 mL 1000 mL + 250 mL	180 days	Frontier Geoscience's SOPs (ICP/MS)	Frontier Geosciences (shipped by DEQ Lab)					

	TABLE 1. WATER SAMPLE COLLECTIONS AT EACH SITE											
Bottle	Parameter Category	Collected By	Container	Preservation	Minimum Sample Volume or Weight	Maximum Holding Time	Analytical Methods	Laboratory				
С	Nutrients Hardness	DEQ	Rectangular plastic	H2SO4 to pH < 2, 4°C	1 liter	28 days	TKN EPA 351.2 T. Phos. EPA 365.4 NH4-N EPA 350.3 NO2+NO3-N EPA 353.2 Hardness EPA 130.2	DEQ				
TOC	Total Organic Carbon	DEQ	Plastic Rectangular	4°C, HCl to pH < 2	8 ounces	28 days	EPA 415.1	DEQ				
BOD	BOD5	DEQ	Cubitainer	4°C	1 liter	48 hours	SM 5210B	DEQ				
COD	COD	DEQ	Rectangular bottle	H2SO4, 4°C	8 ounces	28 days	EPA 410.4	DEQ				
VOAs	Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)	DEQ	G, (Teflon lined septum for water; 40 ml Teflon lined)	4°C, HCl to pH<2 (pH adjust for water only)	3 x 40 mL vials (for water)	14 days (7 days if unpreserved by acid) for water	EPA 8260B	DEQ				
ABNs	Semi-Volatile Compounds (SVOCs) Acid/Base Neutrals	DEQ	G, Amber, Teflon lined cap	4°C	1 gallon	7 days extract/40 days analysis (water)	EPA 8270C	DEQ and DEQ Contract Lab				
Pest	Pesticides	DEQ	Glass, Teflon- lined cap	4°C	1 gallon	7 days until extraction and 40 days after extraction (water)	EPA 507, 508, 525	Department of Agriculture				

	TABLE 1. WATER SAMPLE COLLECTIONS AT EACH SITE											
	Parameter Category	Collected By	Container	Preservation	Minimum Sample Volume or Weight	Maximum Holding Time	Analytical Methods	Labora				
PCB	PCBs	DEQ	Glass, teflon-lined cap	4°C	1 liter	7 days until extraction and 40 days after extraction (water)	EPA 508, 525	Department of Agriculture				
Cyanide	Cyanide	DEQ	Polyethylene	NaOH to pH>12; 4°C	1 Liter	14 days	EPA 335.2	DEQ Contract Laboratory				
	Fecal Coliform Other	USGS	Glass	4°C	1 liter	6 hours	SM 9222D Enteralert Colilert	USGS Mobile Laboratory				

#### QUALITY CONTROL

Field measurements and water samples will be collected in accordance with pertinent DEQ standard operating procedures (SOPs) (see reference section), including calibration and maintenance of equipment, record-keeping, and data management. Any modifications to existing methods are noted in this plan. Laboratory analyses will be performed in accordance with applicable methods and SOPs.

Laboratory quality control samples will be analyzed according to the laboratory Quality Assurance Manual and the laboratory SOPs. Field quality control samples will consist of the following:

- No field duplicates will be collected. Limitations on cooler and transportation space will not allow collection of field duplicates. Additionally, ambient waters impacted by Hurricane Katrina are not expected to be homogeneous in nature.
- All samples for each site will be transported in one cooler for chain of custody purposes, with the exception of samples collected for volatile analysis. All volatile samples will be transported in a single cooler (one volatile cooler per sampling crew). Trip blanks will be transported in each volatile cooler.
- Field blanks are scheduled for collection at a rate of once/crew/week for the following bottles:
  - Bottle A
  - Bottle B at total metals sites only
  - Clean Metals (mercury and non-mercury metals)
- Contamination is not expected for other parameters; the need to collect field blanks for other parameters will be determined on an as needed basis after review of the data.

#### SAMPLING HANDLING

Dissolved Metals Samples (clean metals): The DEQ Lab will get necessary bottles and equipment from Frontier Geosciences Laboratory. Chain of custody forms will be used for these samples and DEQ lab will ship samples to Frontier Geosciences.

Pesticide/PCB Samples: DEQ Lab will order bottles and ship samples to Department of Agriculture laboratory. Chain of custody forms will be used for these samples.

Cyanide Samples: DEQ lab will order bottles and ship samples to the appropriate DEQ Contract Lab. Chain of custody forms will be used for these samples.

Semi-volatile Samples: DEQ lab will order bottles and ship samples to the appropriate DEQ Contract Lab if DEQ lab resources are not available to analyze all samples. Chain of custody forms will be used for these samples.

All other samples: The DEQ lab will provide bottles/sample containers. The water quality data network sheet will be used to log field data and record sample transfer to the DEQ lab. If any of these samples are routed to contract labs due to resource limitations, DEQ laboratory staff will prepare appropriate chain of custody documentation.

USGS will handle all aspects of fecal coliform sampling at all sites and collect their routine water quality samples at sites 0109 – Chef Menteur Pass and 0035 – Pass Rigolets only.

#### DATA TRANSFER AND MANAGEMENT

A new Louisiana Environmental Access Utility (L'EAU or "DEQ Water Quality Database") project number, ES2005006, has been assigned to track water quality data collected by the LDEQ, as part of the Department's post-hurricane water quality assessment program. Existing ambient Water Quality Network (WQN) sites to be sampled post-hurricane will be linked to the project ES2005006 for incoming data. New sites established for the effort will be assigned a L'EAU site number and linked to the same project for data management purposes. LDEQ's water quality laboratory will be informed of the project and site numbers to be used for the monitoring effort in order to facilitate LIMS management of the data at the laboratory.

Currently, all environmental data are being loaded into EPA's SCRIBE data system. DEQ is working with EPA and their contractors to download data into electronic files that can eventually be uploaded into DEQ's L'EAU database; this will allow DEQ water quality staff to continue using existing procedures for data management and water quality assessments. In the interim, a temporary Access database has been established to house the Katrina surface water monitoring data collected under this plan. The interim data transfer procedure follows:

Data collected by DEQ and analyzed by the DEQ laboratory, a DEQ contract laboratory or the Department of Agriculture laboratory will be forwarded as an Electronic Data Deliverable (EDD) from the DEQ laboratory to Gary Fulton, Dana Shepherd, Tom Harris and Barbara Romanowsky. Gary Fulton will provide EDDs to EPA's Environmental Unit; Barbara Romanowsky will forward the EDDs Al Hindrichs, Kimberly Cornelison, Mary Beth Fleming and Kris Pintado (WQAD staff). WQAD staff will separate the EDD into "ambient" data and other ("bowl") data and send the other data back to Dana Shepherd. USGS will submit data to

Emelise Cormier who will forward to Gary Fulton, Al Hindrichs, Kimberly Cornelison, Mary Beth Fleming, and Kris Pintado; Gary Fulton will forward to the EPA Environmental Unit.

Field data sheets will be provided to Mary Beth as the field sampling crews return to DEQ. Until data are retrieved from EPA's SCRIBE data system, DEQ field data will be entered into Excel spreadsheets for storage and analysis.

#### **DATA EVALUATION**

There are several parameters that have human health criteria lower than the sensitivity levels of the proposed analytical methods. If the laboratory reports "non-detects" for these particular parameters, DEQ will investigate the possibility of using alternate analytical methods, however, technology may be the limiting factor in reporting levels for these parameters.

Validation of analytical data will be performed by the laboratory. Qualified data will be reviewed by the WQAD data evaluation personnel to determine usability. Field blank data will be evaluated for parameters with reported results (i.e. numbers and not non-detects)

#### DATA ANALYSIS AND WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT

Data for existing WQN sites in the hurricane impacted area has been retrieved from L'EAU and summary statistics developed. Summary statistics are for a 5-year period for all months; additional summary statistics were calculated for August and September only in order to compare data being collected currently for the post-hurricane impact assessment. Two-month rolling averages will be calculated as needed.

Data summaries for existing sites monitored in Phase 1 (Appendix A – site number less than 3115) will be used for comparison to newly collected post-hurricane samples. For new data collection sites (Appendix A – site numbers  $\geq$  3115), data from nearby established WQN sites will be reviewed for comparison to new sites. Due to the initially small sample sizes, the results of this comparison will consist of simple statements such as, "Results of post-hurricane sampling indicated that parameter X is greater (or less) than the mean of pre-hurricane ambient sampling conducted by DEQ." If pre-hurricane data is adequate to derive summary statistics, standard deviations and variances will also be calculated in order to determine if post-hurricane samples fall within ambient sampling ranges. Comparisons will also be made to existing water quality standards.

#### AMENDMENTS TO THE PLAN

Any amendments to the Phase 1 sampling plan will be documented as separate "attachments" to this plan rather than incorporating changes into the document. Document control headers will be located in the upper right corner of the document and will contain the following information:

Hurricane Katrina Surface Water Monitoring Plan PHASE1 – AMENDMENT # mm/dd/yy Page #

Page numbers should be unique for each amendment and not be continued from the original plan or any previous amendments. In order to track amendments, the title page will be updated each time an amendment is made. The list of amendments on the title page will be cumulative.

# **REFERENCES**

Standard Operating Procedures	Rev. Date
1. Calibration, Maintenance and Operation of Hydrolab Reporter/H2O	2/14/2005
2. Calibration, Maintenance and Operation of YSI 63	12/15/2003
3. Calibration, Maintenance, and Operation of Hydrolab MiniSonde 4A	7/18/2005
4. Collection of Geographical Location Data using the Trimble Pro-XR GPS Receiver	8/1/2005
5. Sampling for Mercury in Louisiana Biota, Sediments, and Surface Waters	1/30/2002
6. SOP for Calibration, Maintenance, and Operation of Hydrolab Quanta	2/14/2005
7. Water Sample Collection, Preservation, Documentation and Shipping	3/23/2004
8. in situ Water Monitoring using Electronic Instruments	12/06/2004
9. Procedures For Data Entry Surface Water Quality Data	1/18/2002
10. Production Of Clean Water Act 303(d) Report	1/18/2002
11. Production Of Mercury Report And Other Special Reports	1/18/2002
12. Production Of Water Quality Inventory (Clean Water Act 305(b) Report)	1/18/2002

## APPENDIX A - PHASE 1 - LAKE PONTCHARTRAIN AND SURROUNDING AREAS SAMPLING SITES

SITE NO SITE NAME	SITE LOCATION	SUB SEGMENT	- HUC	UTM_E	UTM_N LATITUDE	LONG	LAT_DD	LON_DD	POINT_X	POINT_Y
0033 Tangipahoa River west of Robert, Louisiana	at bridge on US Hwy 190, 1.2 miles west of Robert, 6.0 miles east of Hammond	040701		753208	3377678 303023	902142	30.50639	90.36167	753194.08363699900	3377881.01025999000
Pass Rigolets (The 0035 Rigolets) southeast of Slidell, Louisiana	at bridge on US Hwy 90, 6.4 miles southeast of Slidell	041704	08090203	814276	3341634 301002	894413	30.16722	89.73694	814263.18372600000	3341836.22660999000
0036 Pass Manchac at Manchac, Louisiana	East side of bridge on I-55 (US Hwy 51).	040601	08070204	750074	3352647 301653	902401	30.28139	90.40028	750060.25246700000	3352849.67737000000
Pearl River (West) 0105 southeast of Slidell, Louisiana	at bridge on US 90, 0.5 mile east of junction of US 90 and US 190 7.7 miles southeast of Slidell	090202	03180004	820628	3348879 301351	894008	30.23083	89.66889	820615.23288400000	3349081.35839000000
0106 Tchefuncte River at Madisonville, Louisiana	at bridge on State Hwy 22 in Madisonville	040802	08090201	773388	3366858 302416	900916	30.40444	90.15444	773374.31072800000	3367060.87533999000
Chef Menteur Pass at 0109 Chef Menteur, Louisiana	at bridge on US Hwy 90 in Chef Menteur	041702	08090203	807839	3330415 300404	894825	30.06778	89.80694	807826.13847200000	3330617.13513999000
Lake Pontchartrain (Causeway Crossover #7) near Metairie, Louisiana	At Crossover Number 7 on causeway bridge, 3.9 miles north of toll gate on south shore of Lake Pontchartrain.	041001	08090202	775421	3330605 300438	900834	30.07722	90.14278	775407.65217000000	3330807.38819999000
Lake Pontchartrain (Causeway Crossover #4) near Metairie, Louisiana	At Crossover Number 4 on causeway bridge, near mid-lake, 12 miles north of toll gate on south shore of Lake Pontchartrain.		08090202	777642	3342433 301100	900700	30.18333	90.11667	777628.54023599900	3342635.54770000000
Lake Pontchartrain (Causeway Crossover #1) near Covington, Louisiana	At Crossover Number 1 on causeway bridge, 3.9 miles south of toll gate on north shore of Lake Pontchartrain.	041001	08090202	778548	3356264 301828	900613	30.30778	90.10361	778534.42695700000	3356466.73722000000

# Hurricane Katrina Surface Water Monitoring Plan PHASE 1 9/15/05 Page 14

#### APPENDIX A - PHASE 1 - LAKE PONTCHARTRAIN AND SURROUNDING AREAS SAMPLING SITES

SITE NO SITE NAME	SITE LOCATION	SUB SEGMENT	HUC	UTM_E	UTM_N LATITUDE	LONG	LAT_DD	LON_DD	POINT_X	POINT_Y
Lake Pontchartrain-18 0216 north of Metairie, Louisiana	On Lake Pontchartrain Causeway at crossover number 6, 8.0 miles from south shore.	041001	08090202	775974	3336142 300737	900808	30.12694	90.13556	775960.59578700000	3336344.46340999000
Lake Pontchartrain-20 0217 south of Mandeville, Louisiana	On Lake Pontchartrain Causeway at crossover number 2, 8.0 miles from the north shore toll gate.	041001	08090202	777842	3350710 301528	900645	30.25778	90.11250	777828.45678000000	3350912.66565999000
0300 Bayou Lacombe west of Slidell, Louisiana	At U.S. 190 bridge in Lacombe, Louisiana.	040901	08090201	794726	3357336 301849	895607	30.31361	89.93528	794712.62959599900	3357538.67474999000
0301 Bayou Bonfouca at Slidell, Louisiana	At La. 433 bridge in Slidell, Louisiana.	040907	08090201	808490	3353000 301616	894737	30.27111	89.79361	808476.96317700000	3353202.43206000000
0302 Cane Bayou east of Mandeville, Louisiana	At U.S. 190 bridge, 3.0 miles east of Mandeville, Louisiana.	040903	08090201	788180	3359800 302014	900009	30.33722	90.00250	788166.49352599900	3360002.77510999000
Bayou La Branche 0304 north of Norco, Louisiana	At I-10 bridge 6.7 miles west of Kenner, Louisiana.	041201	08090203	753890	3327330 300308	902200	30.05222	90.36667	753876.51615000000	3327532.40785000000
Inner Harbor Navigation Canal at New Orleans, Louisiana	at bridge on State Hwy 47 at Hayne Blvd. in New Orleans		08090203	786000	3325750 300151	900204	30.03083	90.03444	785986.78561999900	3325952.26012999000
Duncan Canal at I-10 1049 mile marker 221, Kenner, Louisiana	1.0 mile North of Moisant Airport, 2.7 miles Northeast of Almedia	041203	08090203	762401	3322460 300024	901647	30.00667	90.27972	762387.64166199900	3322662.34167000000
Suburban Canal near pumping station #2, Avron Drive, Metairie, Louisiana	4.0 miles East of Kenner, 6.0 miles West of New Orleans	041302	08090203	771950	3324131 300111	901049	30.01972	90.18028	771936.69767100000	3324333.31715000000
1077 Bayou Liberty at Hwy. 433 Bridge	0.1 mile Southwest of Bonfouca, 5.2 miles Southwest of Slidell	040906	08090201	803605	3352509 301604	895040	30.26778	89.84444	803591.86365199900	3352711.48550000000

Hurricane Katrina Surface Water Monitoring Plan PHASE 1 9/15/05 Page 15

## APPENDIX A - PHASE 1 - LAKE PONTCHARTRAIN AND SURROUNDING AREAS SAMPLING SITES

SITE NAME NO	SITE LOCATION	SUB SEGMENT	HUC	UTM_E	UTM_N	LATITUDE	LONG	LAT_DD	LON_DD	POINT_X	POINT_Y
3115 Lake Pontchartrain near Duncan Canal	0.5 mile from shore off Duncan Canal	041001	8090202	762325	3328880	300347	901644	30.06293	90.00000	762325.47573499900	3328880.26151000000
3116 Lake Pontchartrain near Suburban Canal	0.5 mile from shore off Suburban Canal	041001	8090202	771847	3326270	300214	901051	30.03732	90.00000	771846.67720200000	3326270.31502000000
3117 Lake Pontchartrain near 17th Street Canal	0.5 mile from shore near 17th Street Canal	041001	8090202	777737	3327247	300241	900711	30.04480	90.00000	777737.28270400000	3327247.22237000000
Lake Pontchartrain 3118 near Inner Harbor Navigation Canal	0.5 mile from shore off Inner Harbor Navigation Canal	041001	8090202	785305	3327422	300241	900228	30.04464	90.04120	785304.66947399800	3327422.19084999000
3119 Lake Pontchartrain near Little Woods	0.5 mile from shore off Little Woods	041001	8090202	793397	3332219	300517	895722	30.08796	90.00000	793396.96168600000	3332219.24335000000